TEXAS - LOUISIANA PETROLEUM RECORD AND

Oil Investors' Journal

THE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH CONCERNING THE BEAUMONT FIELD AND OTHER SOUTHWESTERN OIL FIELDS.

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DOWN TO 7100 BARRELS.

Summary of the Spindletop Field on June 27 Shows 99 Wells Pumping and Five Drilling—New Development Confined to West Side of the Hill—Total Production 7100 Barrels, of Which 5135 Barrels Is Being Obtained by Five Companies—Best Well in the Field is the Guffey Company's No. 50 on the Gladys Farm. It is Making 475 Barrels a Day—Only Two Wells Pumping in the Hogg-Swayne—Disastrous Result of Drilling Wells Close Together is Shown by the Field's Condition To-Day.

A summary of the Spindletop field, prepared on June 27, showed 99 wells pumping; 12 wells cleaning out or drilling deeper and 5 wells drilling. The production of the field on the same day was 7100 barrels, or an average of about 71 7-10 barrels per well.

Probably 60 barrels per well would be a fairer average because one well, included in the above total, the J. M. Guffey Petroleum Company's Gladys No. 50, recently brought in, was credited with a production of 475 barrels, and this raises the general average considerably. The No. 50 was drilled by the Southern Drilling Company and was not intended to be a Guffey well, but in locating it a mistake of a few feet was made with the result that it was put down on the Guffey lease. The Southern Drilling Company turned it over to the Guffey people with the understanding that the cost of drilling it was to be paid out of the first production. At the end of 20 days the well had produced sufficient oil, at a valuation of 50 cents a barrel, to pay its cost, $5100.

Five Companies Produce Seven-Tenths of the Oil.

Of the 99 wells pumping on the day named 68 were being operated by five companies, producing a total of 5135 barrels of oil, or five-sevenths of the entire production. The operations of these five companies are given as follows:

J. M. Guffey Petroleum Company—38 wells pumping; 2 wells drilling; production 2500 barrels.

National Oil & Pipe Line Company—Eight wells pumping; 1 well drilling; production 885 barrels.

Heywood Oil Company—Nine wells pumping; production 800 barrels.

Higgins Oil & Fuel Company—Eleven wells pumping; production 600 barrels.

Southern Drilling Company—Two wells pumping; 2 wells drilling; production 350 barrels.

Resume: Wells pumping, 69; wells drilling, 5; production, 5135 barrels.

Drilling Confined to Block 44 and the Flats.

The two Guffey wells drilling are known as Gladys 49 and 51, located in Block 44 of the Gladys farm, near the Gladys 50, which is now producing more oil than any other well on Spindletop.

The well drilling for the National is known as the Rowe No. 1 and is located in the Flats. Of the eight wells credited to the National as pumping, five are in Block 23 with a total production of 250 barrels. The other three are in the Flats and are credited with 635 barrels.

The Southern Drilling Company has two wells pumping in the Flats, credited with a production of 350 barrels. This company is drilling two wells in Block 44, Gladys, one for George Lock and the other for itself. They are close to the Guffey Company's Gladys 50. All the wells drilling are on the west side of the field.

Summary of Various Sections.

A summary of those portions of the field not included in the operations of the five companies as given above was prepared on the same day by H. Hardie Robinson, and is as follows:

Yellow Pine tract—Ten wells pumping; 3 wells cleaning out.

Block 22, McFaddin Addition—Two wells pumping.

Lone Acre—One well pumping.

Block 21—Five wells pumping; 2 cleaning out.

Hogg-Swayne tract—Two wells pumping; 3 wells cleaning out.

Lone Star & Crescent (Sun Company)—One well pumping; 2 wells cleaning out or drilling deeper.

Block 30—Five wells pumping; 2 wells cleaning out.

Block 5—Two wells pumping.

Keith-Ward—Two wells pumping.

Flats (exclusive of National and Southern Drilling Companies)—One well pumping.

Resume: Wells pumping, 31; cleaning out or drilling deeper, 12; production, 1965 barrels.

Resume of all the field: Wells pumping, 99; cleaning out or drilling deeper, 12; drilling, 5; production, 7100 barrels.

Only One Well in Six Producing.

As there have been about 600 wells sunk on Spindletop it appears that not more than one in six is producing today. The greatest number of abandoned holes are in the Hogg-Swayne and Keith-Ward tracts, where drilling on very small pieces of land—thirty-seconds and sixty-fourths of acres—was in vogue two years ago. In these two tracts, comprising less than 25 acres, half of all the wells sunk on Spindletop were drilled, and the summary shows that only four wells, out of the many that were put down, were operating on June 27.

Instances of Success and Failure.

The Heywood Oil Company seems to lead in the matter of general aver-

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ages. It has drilled 11 wells on its 15-acre lease and of this number nine were operating on June 27. The Heywood No. 2 from which 1,395,000 barrels of oil were sold in the ten months from June 1, 1901, to April 1, 1902, is still producing, and is regarded as a reliable well.

The success of this company in its Spindletop operations may be attributed, first, to intelligence in the drilling and operation of the property, and second, to its excellent location, being in a part of the field which, during gusher days, developed the strongest wells.

In contrast to this company's experience may be mentioned that of another concern which drilled 23 wells in various parts of the field and of the entire number only one is now producing. Failure in this case may be charged directly to the fact that all the wells were drilled in parts of the field where holes were put down every ten or twenty feet.

Rapid Decline Since January 1.

At the first of the present year Spindletop was credited with a production of 15,000 barrels. The rapid decline witnessed in the past six months would have had a decidedly stimulating effect on the oil market if Batson had not been developed just in time to supply the new production that was needed.

It has been reported from Matagorda that the Farmer Dean well is making 1,000 barrels of oil. Samples of the fluid from the well received in Beaumont show a large percentage of water and a mixture known to operators as "B. S." A well has been started by Ben Harper on the two and one-half acres adjoining the Dean land. Harper is drilling for the Heywood Oil Company and Higgins Oil & Fuel Company, joint owners.

A. M. Britton has made his final report as receiver of the Consumers' Oil & Pipe Line Company and has been discharged by the court.

The Linn Oil Company of Beaumont has been incorporated with $10,000 capital to prospect for oil. The incorporators are C. L. Wallis of the Higgins Oil & Fuel Company, C. L. Nash, J. A. Andrews, H. C. Schwaner and L. J. Black.

Shipments of oil from Raywood on the Southern Pacific amounted to 31 cars in the five days from May 26 to 31, making a total of 297 cars from January 1. No oil is being shipped from Raywood at present.

JUNE SHOWS A DECREASE OVER MAY IN MOVEMENT AND CONSUMPTION OF OIL.

Shipments of oil from the two ports during the month of June have not been so heavy by 10,000 barrels a day as the May movement. Sabine shows an increase over former months by reason of the heavy deliveries made by the Security Oil Company to the Standard at that port, but this has been at the expense of Port Arthur, which shows a corresponding decrease.

The daily shipments from the two ports for twenty-eight days of June have averaged 27,000 barrels, against 37,000 barrels a day during May. The total shipments from the two ports up to and including June 28 were 754,147 barrels. A feature of the shipments was the movement of 183,412 barrels of crude by the Standard in nine days, 95,063 barrels going from the Security docks at Sabine and 88,349 from the Texas Company's docks at Port Arthur.

Rail shipments also have shown a decline over the month of May. The movement by tank cars from the various points is reported as follows:

Southern Pacific—From Sour Lake, June 1 to 27 inclusive, 1368 cars. From Gladys (Spindletop), June 1 to 27 inclusive, 63 cars; Beaumont, June 1 to 27 inclusive, 26 cars. Jennings, June 1 to 27 inclusive, 120 cars. These figures show a falling off of four cars a day at Sour Lake, compared to the records of the first five months of the year; decrease of more than 50 per cent at Gladys and Beaumont and a decrease of three cars a day at Jennings.

Santa Fe—From Beaumont, June 1 to 29 inclusive, 41 cars, all commercial oil. From Saratoga, May 27 to May 31, inclusive, 19 cars commercial oil, 51 cars company oil; June 1 to 28 inclusive, 129 cars commercial oil, 345 cars company oil. The Santa Fe Company, before it started shipping from Saratoga, loaded all its own fuel oil at Beaumont. This business has now been transferred to Saratoga, and the shipments average about the same as when they were made from Beaumont.

Figures available at this time indicate that the rail shipments for June will average 15,000 barrels a day. Putting the port shipments at 27,000 barrels a day and allowing 10,000 barrels a day for fuel use at refineries, pumping stations, on the fields and on vessels used in transporting oil, the total average daily consumption for the month will be 52,000 barrels.

The daily production for the month of June is reckoned as follows: Spindletop, 7300 barrels; Saratoga, 1700 barrels; Sour Lake, 13,000 barrels; Batson, 24,000 barrels; total, 46,000 barrels. This would indicate that stocks have been drawn on again to supply the movement and consumption of oil, despite the fact that there has been a decrease in the shipments compared with May.

Batson was running as high as 35,000 barrels a day during the early part of June when the Barclay well and Heywood wells and the Paraffine and Maryellen properties were yielding a big production. In the last ten days, however, there has been a severe falling off all round and the production is reported to have gone as low as 18,000 barrels on one day. It is now around 20,000 barrels a day.

The price of oil at Batson varies from 40 to 47 cents at the wells. The Security Company is voluntarily leading the market, and is getting the bulk of the gauge oil, outside of the Guffey production. At Sour Lake a slump took the price down to 41 and 42 cents during the third week of June, but it has rallied some since that time and 44 cents is now considered a fair price. Spindletop oil in the Guffey tanks has been bringing 48 to 50 cents.

IN THE JENNINGS OIL FIELD.

The Morse Oil Company's No. 6, which came in a 6000-barrel gusher, has stopped flowing and has been placed upon the pump. It is doing about 600 barrels a day.

The Bieuville Oil Company drilled its No. 2 forty feet deeper, which has improved the production considerably.

The Getty well did not flow until reduced to two inches. It then produced 300 barrels a day, but has since ceased to flow and has been placed upon the pump. It is now producing about 200 barrels a day.

The Charleston Oil Company experimented with compressed air on its No. 1 well and exhausted the salt water, demonstrating that the well could be made a producer. The company is now placing a standard rig on the well.

The Jaenke Oil Company has finished its well on the fee simple holding of the Jennings-Heywood Oil Syndicate and is now bailing. The drill went through forty-five feet of oil sand which made a fine showing. Bailing was commenced June 29. This well extends the proven field some 300 feet to the south.

The Charleston Oil Company has leased two acres of the Arnaudet tract and has just started operations.

James Tierce has also leased two acres on the Arnaudet tract.

On June 17 the Northern and Southern pipe line was sold to the Phoenix Pipe Line and Storage Company to prevent the sheriff from foreclosing to satisfy the Oil Well Supply Company's claim. The Phoenix Company then leased the line for a term of two years for a percentage of the net profits, the lessees agreeing to pay a certain amount each month on the indebtedness which the Phoenix Company incurred in the purchase.

The demand for oil is very brisk in the rice country, as the long continued dry spell is working every pump to its fullest capacity.

The Crowley Oil & Mineral Company's No. 9 and No. 13 continue to flow and have added very much to that company's production in the last thirty days. Today the Crowley company pays a 10 per cent dividend on the full capital stock of $200,000. The company is in excellent condition.

Several other companies took the tip from the Crowley Oil and Mineral Company and are now drilling some of their old wells deeper. The outcome is watched with considerable interest.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RAISED IT A MILLION BARRELS.

Producers and refiners in Jefferson County will have to pay taxes on a higher valuation this year than they paid last year, despite the fact that crude oil in January, 1903, was worth more than twice the market price in January, 1904.

The County Commissioners have fixed the price of crude for purposes of assessment this year at 25 cents a barrel and refined, $2 a barrel, against 20 cents a barrel for both crude and refined in 1903.

All the larger companies have made their returns and only in one instance has the return been changed by the commissioners. In this case, however, the increase was sufficiently large to make it worthy of mention. The Texas Company returned a total of 257,000 barrels of oil in storage in Jefferson County on January 1, 1904. The commissioners raised it just 1,000,000 barrels. The same company made returns on 45 miles of four, six and eight-inch pipe lines, worth, according to the statement, $90,500, and 37 steel tanks, 34 being of 37,500 barrels capacity each and 3 of 50,000 barrels capacity.

The Security Oil Company returned 1,746,000 barrels of crude oil and 143,066 barrels of refined oil. This company returned its steel tanks at a total valuation of $24,000 and earthen tanks at $80,000. Its pipe lines are assessed on a valuation of $128,150.

The J. M. Guffey Petroleum Company returned 1,748,696 barrels of crude oil; 64 steel tanks at a valuation of $3000 each, or $192,000; 38 miles of 6-inch pipe line at $76,000 and five and one-half miles of ten-inch pipe line at $13,750.

The Sun Company returned 779,563.31 barrels of crude oil.

The Gulf Refining Company was assessed $450,000 on one item, presumably refined oil, although it was not so designated, being returned under the head of "manufactured articles and material for their manufacture."

The Higgins Oil & Fuel Company returned 16 steel tanks on a valuation of $60,500; 145 tank cars on a valuation of $43,500; 14 producing oil wells at $2000 each, or $28,000 and 341,800 barrels of crude oil.

These returns were made just at the time when Batson was being developed, hence the amount of oil in storage cannot be taken as a fair estimate of the present stocks of the big companies. Six million barrels of oil have been taken out of Batson since January 1. The Guffey Company, the Texas Company and the Security Company have all obtained their share, and if the returns were called for now they would doubtless show a large increase over the first of the year—in some instances almost double.

THE TEXAS COMPANY MAKES A BID FOR PIPE LINE BUSINESS.

The Texas Company has indicated its willingness to again do a little business with producers in the various fields by posting a notice abrogating the offensive order of February 18 under the terms of which an additional charge of 1 per cent a month was made on all oil run in its lines to offset "the extraordinary loss" occasioned by the use of earthen tankage, through "waste, evaporation, and etc."

The company also has made a general reduction in its pipe line charges, which, after July 1, will be as follows: From Batson to Saratoga, 5 cents; Batson and Saratoga to Sour Lake, 6 cents; to Beaumont, 12 cents; to Port Arthur, 15 cents. From Sour Lake to Beaumont, 6 cents; to Port Arthur, 12 cents. From Beaumont to Port Arthur, 6 cents. This charge covers the cost of loading oil on cars or vessels as the case may be. Oil in tanks at Beaumont will be loaded on cars for 5 cents a barrel. The same charge is made for loading at Saratoga and Sour Lake from tanks at the respective fields. At Port Arthur the shipper is free to load either on vessels or on cars, the charge being the same.

The Texas Company's racks at Saratoga are located on the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Railway; at Sour Lake on the Southern Pacific branch; at Port Arthur and Beaumont on the Kansas City Southern Railway.

The abrogation of the additional 1 per cent charge goes into effect after July 1, the last application of the same being made today, to cover the month of July.

Although the Texas Company, through the posting of these recent pipe line notices, is making a bid for business, there is no prospect of a scramble among the producers to put their oil in the Texas lines. It was the only company in the Southeast Texas fields which saw fit to exact extra charges from producers at a time when conditions at Batson made it possible to do so.

NACOGDOCHES A CENTER OF LAND SPECULATION.

A number of local oil operators have recently visited the Nacogdoches oil field and several have purchased lands. Some large deals are now pending. One firm has sold $6,500 worth of property in the past fifteen days to purchasers in Houston and Austin.

In Nacogdoches the people are waking up to the fact that a boom is on and are buying lands. The citizens of Nacogdoches maintain that no deep well has ever been drilled in what is called the oil district. However, it is generally understood by Beaumont oil men that one or more deep wells have been drilled in and around the field besides the Moore-Skinner well four and one-half miles southeast of the field on the Kuykendall lease. This well encountered shallow oil, but it was not developed, as the company was after a gusher, and the well was abandoned.

F. A. Glass and sons have started a well in the P. D. Fore tract and have encountered the shallow oil sands. They are using a light drilling rig and last Saturday had the misfortune to twist off. The Nacogdoches correspondent of the Houston Post reports that a fifty-barrel sand stratum was developed in this well.

The Maryland-Texas Company has a new man on the field looking after its affairs and is securing additional lands. The company already has valuable leases to the northeast, east and south of the Oil Springs property.

C. A. Jones of the Gonzales Oil Company says his company will begin drilling a deep well on the west side in the next few days. The derrick is now up.

MORE FAKE REPORTS ABOUT THE TEXAS-LOUISIANA OIL INDUSTRY.

In the competition for first place as the chief source of fake stories regarding the Texas and Louisiana oil industry, Crowley, La., and Austin, Texas, are neck and neck.

For a time Austin had the field to itself, but Crowley has recently developed a pipe dreamer who is apparently able to meet all competitors in the matter of manufacturing dispatches that call for black headlines and a prominent position in the newspapers that are willing to pay him for the stuff.

In a recent number of the Journal attention was called to a dispatch from Crowley published in a leading Texas daily, announcing that the Standard Oil Company had about closed a deal by which it would swallow the Texas and Louisiana oil business at one gulp. Readers of the daily newspapers will remember that this old chestnut has been sprung at intervals ever since Spindletop was opened up.

Now comes the Houston Chronicle of June 17, with a story from Crowley, headed, "The Standard Will Control." Under this very positive caption the Crowley correspondent reels off the following:

"Crowley, La., June 16.—Henry Smith, an oil man, who has just returned from a trip to New York and Pittsburg, is authority for the statement that the Standard Oil Company is preparing to launch a mammoth deal by which it will secure control of the southwestern oil fields of Louisiana and Texas, and claims that the Standard has agent at work in this territory taking leases and options on all available land with a determined effort to shut off the discovery of a new field.

"Mr. Smith says the Standard will soon be working openly. The matter is being kept secret only until certain large deals are consummated.

"If the Standard people are successful, they will pipe the oil to New Orleans and ship it to all parts of the world.

"The Standard is said to be willing to expend a tremendous sum to carry out its plans, and it is rumored that correspondence has been opened with a number of companies in the Jennings field for the purchase of holdings."

It seems improbable that Mr. Smith ever made such a bunch of statements as are attributed to him. If he did make them, he must have felt foolish when he saw this sentence in type: "If the Standard people are successful, they will pipe the oil to New Orleans and ship it to all parts of the world."

Apparently the Crowley correspondent never heard of Sabine or Port Arthur, both natural outlets for the oil produced in southeast Texas. A half dozen pipe lines are now in operation to these two ports, affording adequate facilities for all the oil that is shipped out of this district by water. From Beaumont to New Orleans is 277 miles. From Beaumont to Port Arthur the distance is 18 miles, and from Beau-

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SUBJECT TO THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY JULY 9, 1904

VOTE FOR

OSWALD S. PARKER

CANDIDATE FOR

COUNTY ATTORNEY

SUBJECT TO THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY OF JULY 9, 1904

Shipments of Oil From Port Arthur

DATE	RIG	NAME OF VESSEL	LOADED BY	CONSIGNEE	DESTINATION	GRADE	Quantity in Barrels
June							
13	Tug	Albania & Barge	Texas Co.	P. A. R. & I. Co.	Nederland, Texas	Crude	825
15	"	Albania & Barge	Gulf Ref. Co	P. A. R. &. I. Co.	" "	"	1 327
18	S. S.	Larimer	Gulf Ref. Co	Gulf Ref. Co.	New Orleans	"	31 473
19	"	E. L. Drake	Texas Co.	Standard	Brooklyn, N. Y.	"	38 711
19	Barge	No. 94	Texas Co.	Standard	Constable Hk.	"	49 638
20	S. S.	Ligonier	Gulf Ref. Co	Gulf Ref. Co.	Gibson Pt., Pa.	"	22 032
20	"	Ligonier	Gulf Ref. Co	Gulf Ref. Co.	" "	Lubricants	8 762
20	Barge	Clarke No. 1	Gulf Ref. Co	Bowers Ddg. Co.	Galveston, Texas	Crude	2 767
20	"	Flyton	Texas Co.	Texas Co.	Morgan City, La.	"	7 038
22	"	Shenango	Gulf Ref. Co	Gulf Ref. Co	New Orleans	"	26 273
22	Tug	A. Barns & Barge	Gulf Ref. Co	P. A. R. & I. Co.	Nederland, Texas	"	1 164
22	"	Albania & Barge	Gulf Ref. Co	C. B. C. & I. Co.	Cow Bayou	"	1 011
24	S. S.	Larimer	Gulf Ref. Co	Gulf Ref. Co.	Bayonne, N. J.	"	18 176
24	"	Larimer	Gulf Ref. Co	Gulf Ref. Co.	" "	Solar	13 245
24	"	Larimer	Gulf Ref. Co	Gulf Ref. Co	" "	Gasoline	2
			TOTAL (Barrels.)				222 444
			Previous Shipments				3 568 544
			Total Since January 1st				3 790 988

Shipments of Oil From Sabine

DATE	RIG	NAME OF VESSEL	LOADED BY	CONSIGNEE	DESTINATION	GRADE	Quantity in Barrels
June							
17	Barge	No. 95	Security Co.	Standard	Philadelphia, Pa.	Crude	49 999
18	S. S.	Northeastern	Security Co.	Standard	" "	"	22 500
21	Barge	Gusher	Higgins Co	Plantations	Miss. River	"	8 809
26	S. S.	Northman	Security Co.	Standard	Philadelphia, Pa	"	22 564
4	"	Roma	Sun Co.	Sun Co.	Marcus Hk.	"	26 897
17	"	Washtenaw	Sun Co.	Sun Co.	" "	"	25 511
12	"	Toledo	Sun Co.	Sun Co.	" "	"	21 144
28	"	Paraguay	Sun Co.	Sun Co.	"	Crude	18 989
25	"	H. Luckenbach	Security Co.	Standard	Philadelphia, Pa.	Crude	2 800
25	"	H. Luckenbach	Security Co.	Standard	" "	Solar	25 000
			TOTAL (Barrels)				222 213
			Previous Shipments				1 094 299
			Total Shipments since January 1				1 316 512

mont to Sabine, 30 miles. All the gathering lines, from Sour Lake, Saratoga and Batson, converge in the Beaumont district. Yet the gentleman at Crowley would have us believe that there is a scheme on foot to build a line 277 miles or more in length in order to ship Texas and Louisiana oil "to all parts of the world"! Jennings, the most productive field in Louisiana, is ninety miles from Beaumont, and more than 180 miles from New Orleans. One large company already has surveyed a pipe-line right of way from Jennings to the Beaumont district, and if the production at Jennings ever grows to a point that will warrant the construction of a line from that field to First Baptist church on Pearl street the Beaumont district, it will be built in short order.

It is perhaps a waste of space to discuss fake reports concerning the Texas and Louisiana oil fields, and they would not be noticed in these columns were it not for the fact that the continued and never-ending publication in the newspapers of rumors as to what the Standard intends or doesn't intend to do in these fields creates the impression that there is some sort of a fight on down here between the Standard and other interests.

The New Orleans newspapers appear to be the most willing victims of this sort of faking, and the Picayune of that city recently went so far as to published lengthy editorials, based on reports similar to that published in the Houston Chronicle, foretelling the beneficial effects that would follow the piping of oil to New Orleans!

It would be well for the Texas and Louisiana newspapers to remember that every time they print an unverified report with reference to deals that are supposed to be pending by which everything in the Texas and Louisiana oil fields is to change hands, they encourage a sentiment that has been created by such rumors—a feeling that things are uncertain, and this is harmful to the best interests of the new oil-producing regions of the two states.

It is a fact that the Standard is able to buy, and is buying all the Texas and Louisiana oil that it wants. It is also a fact that the same company is the heaviest purchaser of Texas oil, and at prices that have never been considered high. These facts are open to the broad light of day. But if the Standard has ever made an effort to buy up the producing properties in the two states it has done so without the knowledge of the hundreds of producers who control the output of the various fields.

Any one who has the money can buy land in any of the Texas or Louisiana fields, he can drill wells and he can sell his oil to one or all of a half dozen or more large purchasers, among them being the Southern Pacific Company, the Santa Fe Company, the Texas Company, the J. M. Guffey Petroleum Company, the Security Oil Company, the Sun Company and the Standard Oil Company. No one company or individual has a monopoly either on the production or the purchase of Texas and Louisiana oil.

At Muskogee, I. T., oil has been developed in three wells drilled by the Muskogee Oil & Gas Company, composed of negroes. It is reported that some of the town's residence streets are being sprinkled with the crude oil to lay the dust.

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HOLLAND S. REAVIS, Editor and Manager.

TIME FOR ROCKEFELLER TO TREMBLE.

George N. Parsons left for his oil-well possessions in Kansas, the first of the week. Hope he and J. A. Hooker will strike it rich, and knock out Rockefeller's business in the Northwest.—Elkton (S. D.) Record.

JEFFERSON COUNTY'S OPPORTUNITY.

A Jefferson County man ought to represent this district in the lower house of the Texas legislature, and we sincerely hope that Walter A. Myrick, of Beaumont, will be chosen for the place.

Opposed to Mr. Myrick at the primary are two other gentlemen from Jefferson County and one from Orange County. If Jefferson County, with its splendid commercial and industrial interests, should yield to a lesser county in the choice of representative it would be a distinct misfortune and one which would undoubtedly be felt when the legislature convened.

Concerning the two other candidates from Jefferson County we have nothing to say. But we know what Mr. Myrick has accomplished in a business way in Jefferson County in the past three years and we believe he is the sort of man who will protect the interests of the district to the fullest degree and get for the district everything to which it is entitled at the hands of the law-making body.

It has been urged that Mr. Myrick is the representative of a certain class, that he is friendly to some of the "big" interests in the county. We regard him as being big enough in every respect to represent all the interests, big and little, and if he is elected it will probably develop that he is a good deal bigger than he has been painted by those who are opposing his candidacy. His firm has successfully filled contracts for the largest construction work ever undertaken in this county; it is now doing a very extensive and constantly growing business. Mr. Myrick is acquainted with the county's needs and he also knows what it doesn't need—among other things, a tax on oil.

With a deficit showing in the State's financial affairs one of the first revenue raising schemes will be a proposition to tax the oil production of Southeast Texas. It will require a strong man and a shrewd one to fight such a proposition, and the producer—the little fellow—must remember that whatever is done in the way of an oil tax will be done at his expense.

To send a man from another county to the legislature at this time would be an evidence of both thoughtlessness and weakness on the part of Jefferson county. Not many counties have had the opportunity to be represented by a man of Mr. Myrick's caliber. He ought to be chosen by a fat majority.

SEEING THE KANSAS FIELD THROUGH A MAGNIFYING GLASS.

The oil and gas fields of Kansas, which for a number of years have been worked with varying success and regularity, have of late become the center of one of the vastest industries of the world. In fact, the fields are rapidly outclassing all others in the world and if present indications are of account, it will not be long before Kansas will be considered the leading oil and gas section in the world. Oil companies have sprung up in all parts of the country and at the present time there are hundreds and hundreds of different wells in constant flow. With but few exceptions the wells are coming up to expectations, and many of them are far exceeding the speculators' plans and desires.—Minneapolis Tribune.

The oil fields of Kansas are among the most promising in America, and the recent visit of Standard Oil officials has given the Sunflower state some valuable advertising as a petroleum-producing region, but the foregoing aparagraph from an article in the Minneapolis Tribune savors strongly of boosting. Has Minneapolis been invaded by gentlemen with Kansas oil stocks to sell? The Tribune story looks very much like an advance notice for a bunch of professional promoters.

Before Kansas can be classed with the largest oil-producing regions of the world she must pass Baku, the greatest of all, then Ohio, California, Indiana, Pennsylvania and last, but not least, Texas. Four pools in southeast Texas with a total area of less than 1,000 acres are producing 40,000 barrels a day—which is three times the daily production of the Kansas fields.

A REPORT ON THE HENRIETTA OIL FIELD.

A recent report on the Henrietta, Texas, oil field is as follows: Producing territory located in Clay County, twelve miles north of Henrietta. Nearest railroads, Fort Worth & Denver City, connecting Denver and Fort Worth, and the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad, connecting St. Louis and Texas points. Twenty-three wells completed, capacity two to five barrels a day, most of the wells of the smaller size. Oil is found in white quartz sand at depths varying from 260 to 300 feet. One well was drilled two years ago by Beatty & Sharp to 1,200 feet, but encountered only the shallow sand. Several wells have been drilled to 600 or 700 feet, but nothing has been found below 300 feet. A peculiarity of the field is the almost entire absence of gas. Salt water is common in the field. The storage consists of sixteen 100-barrel tanks, containing from 600 to 700 barrels of oil on June 18. The oil is light and is said to be excellent for refining purposes, excelling the Corsicana product. The Higgins Oil & Fuel Company recently bought 160 acres in this field and is drilling a well. It is reported that a pipe line will be built to the railroad.

CENTRAL ASPHALT PLANT TO BE SOLD AUGUST 2.

By order of the United States circuit court the property of the Central Asphalt & Refining Company, located at Port Neches, south of Beaumont, will be sold by the receiver on August 2, for an upset price of not less than $200,000 to satisfy a mortgage held by General Samuel T. Carnes of Memphis, Tenn. General Carnes holds the company's notes in the sum of $147,000.

The Central plant is not operating, it has never been entirely completed, although it has made some runs, which, according to certain of the promoters, demonstrated the practicability of the process employed for treating the southeast Texas oils.

The company has been in litigation for more than a year. Charges of fraud have been exchanged between some of those who were identified with the organization of the concern, and its affairs have been entangled through suits and counter-suits. It seems probable that the Carnes faction will obtain control of the property by buying it in at the sale next month.

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WINDING UP THE TEXAS OIL & PIPE LINE COMPANY.

P. L. Tippett has been appointed receiver for the Texas Oil & Pipe Line Company on the application of the Texas Crude Oil & Mining Company.

This is a part of the plan to wind up the affairs of the Texas Oil & Pipe Line Company, which, at one time, operated two productive wells in the Hogg-Swayne district on Spindletop. For many months, however, the company has been inactive. It is in debt and has no means of satisfying the indebtedness, hence it is probable that the Texas Crude Oil & Mining Company, which, in its petition, claims to be a creditor to the extent of $10,000, will get the greater part of whatever assets there may be.

The Texas Oil & Pipe Line Company was organized under the laws of West Virginia with a capital stock of $2,500,000. The first board of directors was composed of Lionel H. Graham of New York, president; Morgan D. Williams, Wilkesbarre, Pa., vice-president; Ed. W. Swan, New York, secretary and treasurer; T. G. Bush, Birmingham, Ala.; Richard H. Edmonds, Baltimore, Md.; E. M. Reardon, Dallas, Texas; Hall Wilcox., Rod Oliver and L. J. Kopke, Beaumont.

The company bought, from the Hogg-Swayne syndicate, one-twelfth of an acre in block 38 and one-sixteenth of an acre in block 36, Spindletop. Two eight-inch wells were drilled and proved productive, but the company experienced a succession of difficulties in its operations, and finally gave up its efforts to produce oil on Spindletop. It had leases in other parts of Texas and in Louisiana, but these were not developed. The outlook for the shareholders is anything but promising.

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It was reported in Beaumont on June 29 that the Sour Lake field had been extended to the westward by a well on the Jackson land. The report indicated a producer good for 500 barrels of oil a day.

The West Virginia Oil Company, with $25,000 capital, has been organized to operate in the Jennings field. Ralph H. Ely, T. C. Mahaffey and Prentice Ashton are the incorporators.

PROSPECTIVE OIL FIELDS OF MEXICO.

Mexico has a great future as an oil-producing country, and its output will some time astonish the world. This is the opinion of Isaac Newton Boicourt of Los Angeles, Cal., who was in the city yesterday and left last night over the National for Laredo. He intends to look into the oil question in the state of Tamaulipas. Mr. Boicourt was for four years employed as an exploiter of supposed oil-bearing lands of Mexico, especially the table-lands of the western half of this republic, from Parral, Chihuahua to Colima on the west coast. In speaking of the oil situation yesterday, he said.

"The future of Mexico as an oil country is great. It will be one of the largest oil-producing regions in the world some day, and will exceed the production of the Texas fields by far. These future oil lands will be on the eastern slopes of the mountains in the country from the Rio Grande to the Isthmus of Tehauntepec.

"I have exploited thoroughly the table lands of the western country from Parral to Colima and I am satisfied that oil will never be found on them. On the west coast below Acapulco, I believe there will be found good oil some time. The indications are very strong for flowing wells in that section.

"During the period of my search for good oil lands, I sunk two wells in the state of Coahuila and despite all the bad results in that section, I believe there will some time be found a fine flow of oil in that land. I have never lost my faith in the country, the indications are so strong that there must be oil sands.

"There is one thing that is in favor of Mexico as an oil country, and that is the strata in the sections where oil will be found are regular in geological formation and there would not be the great danger of the fields spoiling from the inrush of salt water such as has taken place in Texas at Beaumont and Sour Lake. Of course, there would eventually be a salt-water seepage, which would in time stop the flow of the well, but what I mean is that there would not be the salt-water curse as soon as it came in Texas.

"I believe it is absolutely certain there is plenty of oil in Mexico and that it will be sufficient to last for generations when it is once discovered. Mexico will be another California some day, and I do not think I am overstepping the bounds of reason when I say that Mexico will, when its oil resources are developed, be one of the most prosperous nations on the globe."—Mexican Herald.

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Application has been made to the district court at Beaumont for the appointment of a receiver to take charge of the properties on Spindletop operated by the United Oil Fields Company, of which L. P. Hammond of Chicago is the active head. The land involved is in the Gladys City subdivision. Two oil wells are located on it. The application for a receiver is made at the instance of the Peden Iron & Steel Company, a Houston corporation, which holds a vendor's lien note for $1,000, given to T. C. Stribling in payment for the Spindletop property by Hammond. It is averred that the company is without a permanent place to do business in Texas, that it has defaulted on payment of the note and has accumulated other indebtedness. The hearing is set for July 5 before Judge Watts.

The police jury of the parish of St. Martin, La., in which is situated the Anse la Butte oil field, has granted to Heywood Bros. Oil corporation a fifty year franchise and right of way over all roads for a pipe line from the oil field to Breaux Bridge on the Bayou Teche and the Southern Pacific Railroad. The Breaux Bridge town council has given the corporation a lease on ten acres of water front and has extended the time in which work is to begin on the installation of the plant eight months.

Garva E. Strong, formerly a resident of Chicago and member of the board of trade of that city, has located in Beaumont and will conduct a general brokerage business, dealing principally in crude oil. He has inspected the producing fields of Texas and Louisiana and is fully convinced of the permanency of the industry in this section. Mr. Strong has taken an office in the Wiess building.

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A new hole has been started by Chapman and associates on the Nicholson survey, ten miles southeast of Cleveland and sixteen miles northwest of Dayton in Liberty County. The first well was drilled to a depth of 812 feet. Reports were circulated to the effect that oil had been developed in this well, but no confirmation is obtainable.

It is reported from Winnfield, La., that two blow-outs have occurred in the wild-cat well drilling near that town. The last one forced the four-inch pipe out of the well. A depth of 750 feet had been attained at the time.

The report of operations in the Ohio and Indiana oil fields for the first five months of 1904 indicates that the production was in excess of 9,000,000 barrels, valued at $13,000. Royalties paid to farmers on whose land the oil was produced amounted to nearly $2,000,000.

The deep well drilled by the Colorado Company at Welsh was abandoned at a depth of 2240 feet. A fine flow of salt water was struck at the depth stated.

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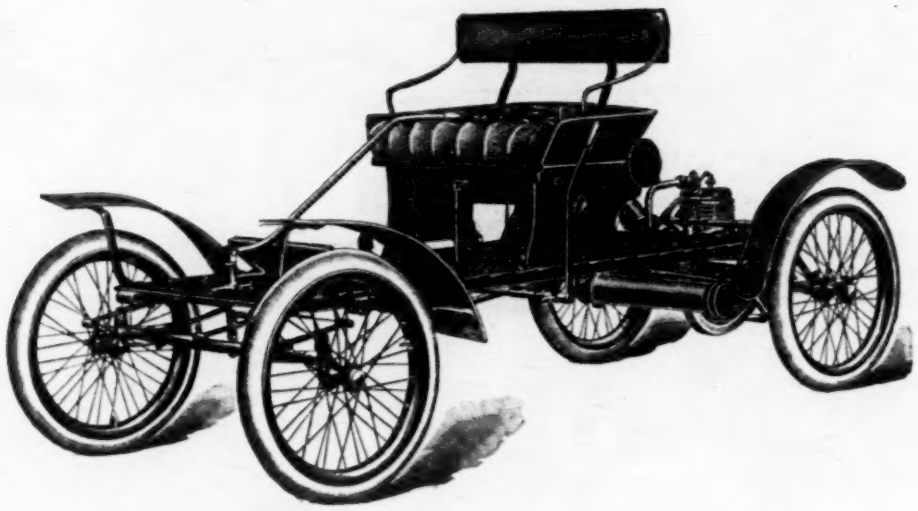

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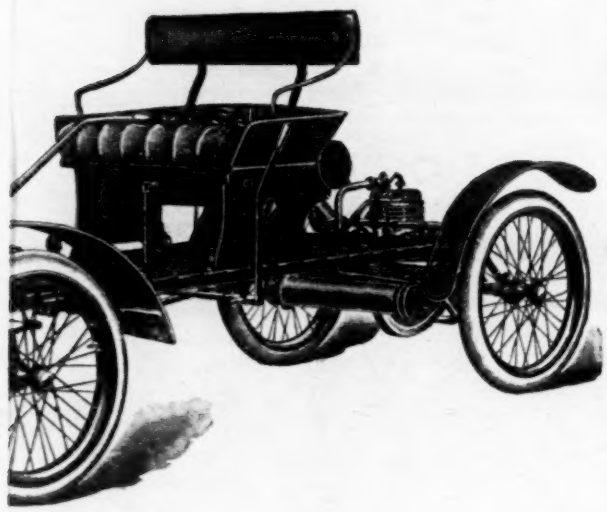

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